

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1 to 4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently amended) A method for treating ~~or curing~~ a patient having tumor cells, which comprises administering an antitumor-effective amount of ascopyrone to the patient thereby inducing apoptosis of the tumor cells and killing the tumor cells directly.

6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 5 wherein the ascopyrone is ascopyrone P.